From the Director

Dan Jacobs, MD

“There is no Frigate like a Book
to take us Lands away.”

-Emily Dickinson

Books, libraries, and archives are wonderful places of voyage and discovery. In browsing through books and papers, you never know to where you may travel and what surprises are in store. Take, for instance, Diana Nugent’s surprise when, asked to try to find some archival papers in the BPSI safe, she came upon, instead, a note from Sigmund Freud. Written in Freud’s hand in German, it said "Would you look to some extent after this little hysteria and think about what has to be done for her." This note was from David Pokross, Sr. and his wife Marion, given to us on December 18, 1964. A lovely Christmas gift made twice as nice by its rediscovery. The note will be on display in the third floor library showcase.

Also in the safe were six letters from Anna Freud to Grete Bibring. The letters, written in English, cover a period from 1945 to 1964. In the first letter from Maresfield Gardens in January, 1945 Anna writes: “There are innumerable occasions when I regret not to have your cooperation and support in work here. But where I realize all the difficulties, unpleasantries and dangers you have escaped, for your children above all, I have not doubt you acted wisely. Even as I write now (after how many years?) it is punctuated with rocket explosions. People with children to protect, really have and have had a bad time of it." In December of 1963 she writes: "The Kennedy time was terrible here too and the amazing thing was that the English people reacted as if it had happened to them as much as the Americans. It shows how much room and need there is for a world symbol and a world conscience."

These artifacts are only a tiny part of the invaluable collection of documents and photographs that are a form of time travel available to our members and interested community. And speaking of time, it is not too late for those who would like to support the Bibring book project to do. The book of Bibring photos from BPSI archives (some of which hang in our library) will be published within a year. It will consist of 190 images with biographical sketches compiled by Dr. Gifford. A handsome cover has already been designed. Contributors to the book’s publication will be listed in the book.

But if we travel back in time with the help of our archives, we must also propel ourselves forward with the help of new ideas that new publications represent. Each year we devote a sizeable amount of our library budget to new purchases (see the list of new acquisitions on page 5). With the generous support from Mort and Raisa Newman we have funds to purchase books and videos about child and adolescent development. Your generosity in establishing the Gifford Fund enables us to buy new biographies and,

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Hopefully, in the future to be able to scan our photo collection onto our website. And your support through annual dues and donations, enables us to upgrade our PEP, a wonderful study and research tool. For those of you who do not have your own PEP, you can call on Steve to help you use the one in our library. The library and archives as Dr. Gifford recounts in this issue has offered help to a number of visitors from different fields.

Most of all, in the future, we must try to make our library and archival resources available not only to members, but to other scholars, academics, and artists who can and want to make a stronger connection between their work and our own.

We are thankful for all of you who have supported the library with donations. The best gift you can give to our library, however, is to travel with us, to use the library and make it your own.

In the Archives

Archivist Sarah Smith

To begin with the good-news-bad-news: in July we were able to hire a remarkably energetic young part-time archivist, Sarah Smith, who had just graduated from the Simmons School of Library Science. This was made possible by a small donation from a family trust. She showed great initiative in taking on the extensive papers of the J. J. Putnam Children’s Center, four 4-drawer filing-cabinets of clinical records and many boxes of books and research films. She completed the organization of these complex collections and she arranged to have the many films from longitudinal research on normal development transferred from short filmstrips to a DVD that can be played by modern equipment. This is also the best current method of preserving photographs and films. Then the bad news, that, unhappily, she was obliged to accept a full-time job at Harvard and October was her last month at the BPSI. We wish Sarah the best at her new job and hope to see her around BPSI for a visit now and then.

The Elvin Semrad Project

We are planning a workshop on Elvin Semrad for May 2005, based on the 50-odd reel-to-reel tapes that our long-term collaborator, David Mobley, has been borrowing from Countway Medical Library. He painstakingly listens to these tapes on antique equipment and makes selections for transcribing onto cassettes or CDs that are accessible for research. Dr. Dan Buie has used these tapes for teaching purposes, and he will present excerpts at our prospective oral history workshop, along with his reflections on Dr. Semrad’s unique interviewing techniques. The workshop will be chaired by Dr. Max Day.

Sanford Gifford, MD

Freud and Ferenczi Lecture

Dr. Sanford Gifford and Dr. Arthur F. Valenstein gave a joint presentation on Freud and Ferenczi at a meeting of the Postgraduate Psychoanalytic Society of New York on October 25th, chaired by Dr. Hannah E. Kapit and held in her apartment. Dr. Gifford introduced the discussion with Freud’s incomplete analysis of Ferenczi and the unhappy ending of their intense relationship in 1932, when Ferenczi was terminally ill with pernicious anemia and subacute combined degeneration. Dr. Valenstein discussed Ferenczi’s last paper, which Freud had tried to suppress, and the contemporary revival of interest in Ferenczi’s “active techniques.” Dr. Kapit recalled her encounters with Mrs. Elizabeth Severn, one of Ferenczi’s last patients with whom he conducted a “dual analysis.”

Recent Archives Visitors

The Archives have had a number of interesting visitors since the spring of 2004, beginning with Dr. Elizabeth Danto of Hunter College, who was writing a book about psychoanalytic hospitals in Europe. In extending her scope to clinics, she consulted us

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about the Ambulatorium in Vienna, founded by Edward Hirschmann and Felix Deutsch, and the Polyclinic of the Berlin Psychoanalytic Institute. She was especially interested in the Erlagischeine, or vouchers, which Freud contributed to the Vienna Institute to pay for the analysis of the one free analysis that each Viennese analyst was expected to carry out. One of these vouchers, from the Bieber archives, will appear on the cover of her book.

Late last year we had a visit from Dr. Marianne von Hippel, the daughter of Jenny Waelder-Hall, our first child-analyst in 1938. She and her daughter were collecting data for a biography. We were able to supply copies of interviews with Dr. Waelder-Hall that Dr. Gifford had taped in 1973 and 1982, and an unpublished biographical sketch. In return we learned more about our forebear’s early history.

In June we had another visit from Martha Rusnak, the only living daughter of Ives Hendrick. She brought us several boxes of archival material to add to our Hendrick files, and we taped some re-

collections of her family history. She has signed consent-forms giving us permission to make whatever use of her father’s archives that we see fit.

The next visitor was George Prochnik, the grandson of James Jackson Putnam, our first analyst and founding father, of whom Prochnik is writing a biography. We exchanged information of great mutual interest, from him about Putnam and Cabot family history and from us about Molly Putnam and the history of the Putnam Children’s Center. We plan to keep in touch.

Our most recent visitor was Dr. Veronika Fuechtner, an assistant professor of German at Dartmouth College, who is writing a book about Weimar culture in the 1920s. She was very much interested in the role played by the Berlin Psychoanalytic Institute in the avant garde movements of that era. We could contribute some photographs and background data, as well as two unexpected links to early members of the BPSI: Hanns Sachs’s role in the 1923 film Secrets of a Soul, which incurred Freud displeasure, and Lucie Jessner’s brother-in-law, who was also active in filmmaking and the “chamber drama.”

"My Mother’s Eyes is a testimonial to the power of connection between a mother and daughter in the face of the unspeakable horror of the holocaust. Each of its brief stories brings the reader closer to the lexicon of survival, in which even an apple core, or a second-hand bath, or a fantasy of a warm bedroom, can revive hope. Anna Ornstein’s stories, told first to her family, are a generous and moving gift to all of us."

-Susan Quinn, Author of A Mind of Her Own: The Life Karen Horney, Marie Cure: A Life, and Human Trials

On a recent rainy October night, while many stayed in due to weather or to watch a crucial Red Sox game unfold in the Bronx, BPSI’s first floor library was overflowing with guests who came to share in the memories of Dr. Anna Ornstein. Dr. Ornstein, an Auschwitz survivor, discussed her book “My Mother’s Eyes: Holocaust Memories of a Young Girl”, a compilation of the stories she originally recounted to her family over the years at Seder.

Dr. Ornstein’s discussion ranged from how rare and fortunate it was to have her mother with her throughout the Holocaust, to how the smallest, seemingly innocuous decisions ended up being the difference between life and death.

If you missed this opportunity to talk with Dr. Ornstein, you still have a chance to explore her writing. Several texts from Dr. Ornstein’s book, accompanied by prints of Stewart Goldman’s artwork that were created for the book, will be on display on the basement level of BPSI through the spring.
In the early 80’s Chuck Rothstein proposed to the American Psychoanalytic Association (APsaA) that we start publishing psychoanalytic books. A publishing consultant was brought in, and it was concluded that it wouldn’t be financially feasible.

Approximately 15 years later a number of us (Arnie Richards, Sandy Abend, and Chuck Rothstein) were concerned about how few presses were publishing psychoanalytic books. We approached the Executive Committee of APsaA, and another committee was formed. After being made Chairman of the committee, I became fascinated by the finances of book publishing. To briefly summarize, the cost of publishing a book is like the old joke (from the 50’s) about the cost of an electric car. The car cost $50, but the extension chord costs $10,000. In book publishing the actual printing of a book is very cheap. At the time it was about $5 a book, but with on-demand printing it is probably even cheaper. However, it is everything else (i.e., order taking, making the book mail-ready and the cost of mailing, inventory space, lawyers for contracts, etc.) that makes a book expensive. Since APsaA is constantly struggling with its finances, the risks involved were realistically too great.

We were fortunate to make an arrangement with one of the publishers still interested in publishing psychoanalytic books, Other Press (owned by BPSI member Judith Feher-Guerwich), whereby we would choose the books in the JAPA Book Series and they would publish them. I was appointed Editor of the new series, and the fun and agony of being an editor began. We published two books in Spring of 2004 after generous reviewers (Ellen Blumenthal being one) aided me in deciding whether and how the manuscript might best be published. The first was Leo Rangell’s book, "My Life in Theory". The title captures the essence of the book in two ways. The first is Leo’s recounting his version of major events that have occurred in psychoanalysis over the last 50 years from his view as President of the American Psychoanalytic Association and International Psychoanalytical Association, and his personal interactions with Anna Freud, Otto Fenichel, Heinz Kohut, Ralph Green-...
In the Library: New Books

BPSI members have the opportunity to play a large role in what materials the library owns. The library welcomes your suggestions for books, periodicals, films, or other media you feel are important to any aspect of psychoanalytic research. Thanks in large part to the efforts of Dr. Anna Wolff, many recent publications have been brought to our attention for purchase. The following list highlights some of the books that are currently being ordered, and you can expect them in the library soon.


In the Library: Other News

GIFTS & DONATIONS

As usual, but greatly appreciated as always, were the numerous donations to the library by Dr. Dan Jacobs and Dr. Sanford Gifford in the form of books, journals, photographs, audio tapes, and just about any other medium you might imagine.

Thanks to Dr. Fred Busch for donating two books to the library, including Leo Rangell’s “My Life in Theory” and Arnold Goldberg’s “Misunderstanding Freud”.

Ms. Debra Hermann thoughtfully donated several video recordings of Dr. Thomas Dwyer and other analysts. These tapes will be made available as they are conserved and cataloged.

The library wishes to give special thanks to Dr. Dan Buie and Dr. Kenneth Zack for their financial donations in support of the Elvin Semrad Project.

The Bibring Book project was greatly helped with a thoughtful donation by Dr. Catherine Kimble.

Dr. Don and Merna Lipsitt have kindly donated a picture of Dr. Karen Horney to the library.

Dr. Ana-Maria Rizzuto graciously donated a copy of the book “The Dynamics of Human Aggression”, written by her, W. W. Meissner, and Dan Buie.

Dr. Stephanie Smith made a much-appreciated donation of a DVD “My name was Sabina Spielrein”, a documentary about an unknown Russian Jew who became Jung’s first analysis patient. After successful treatment for hysteria, Spielrein studied medicine, and became one of the first women in Freud’s Psychoanalytical Society in Vienna.

Lori Solen made a kind donation of many psychoanalytic journals to the library.

Dr. Lionelle Wells generously donated a 24-volume set of “The Complete Psychological Works of Freud” to the library.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Meet the Author Series

The library’s Meet the Author Series has enjoyed a very successful year and we are working hard on our lineup for the coming winter and spring. We will keep you posted on the upcoming events slated for February 15 and May 17, 2005.

Library Book Sale

The Hanns Sachs Library is continuously selling extra copies of books from our collection to make space. Many of these are first editions and classic texts in psychoanalysis. Books for sale are located on BPSI’s basement level next to the kitchen, and on two bookshelves in the third floor library. Be sure to take a look now and then, as new books are added several times a year. Every book is just $5.

LIBRARY MEMBERSHIP

For those who are not BPSI members or students, you may join the library for an annual fee of $50. As a library member, you are entitled to borrow books and to the services of Steve Morandi for searches and xeroxing of materials. Additionally, you may use the PEP (Psychoanalytic Electronic Publishing) archive in the library, which allows for quick searches and printing of many full text articles from major psychoanalytic journals. For more information please call Steve at 617-266-0953 or e-mail him at library@bostonpsychoanalytic.org.